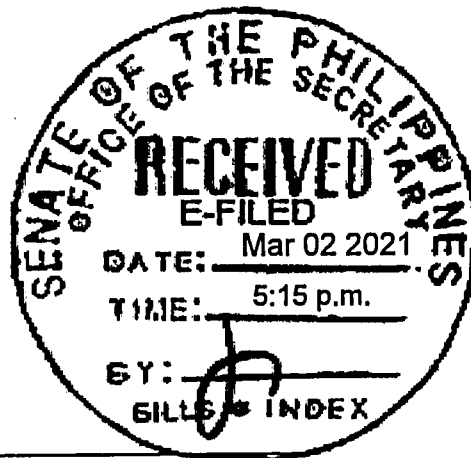


**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)**

**SENATE
S.B. No. 2082**



Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**AN ACT
CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
SECOND JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE PROVINCE OF
ISABELA, MUNICIPALITY OF CABAGAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 14(J) AND 29 OF
BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY
REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 22, Cabagan, Isabela is a single sala court with three (3) Municipal Circuit Trial Courts (MCTC) and six (6) municipalities under its jurisdiction. In addition from being a general court, it is also the designated Family Court, Drug Court, Election Court, and Special Green Court tasked to adjudicate environmental cases.

Despite the efforts of the court to hear and decide the cases expeditiously and efficiently, a total of five hundred forty-one (541) cases are pending before the court as of February 28, 2020. In addition, the court is flooded with new cases, with an average of four hundred fifty (450) to five hundred (500) new cases filed before the court every year.

The courts in Cabagan, Isabela are having difficulty coping with the heavy caseload notwithstanding the efforts to resort to expedient methods intended towards fast and timely disposition of cases. With the limited number of court employees and salas, the RTC in Cabagan is overburdened with cases, thereby affecting its overall efficiency.

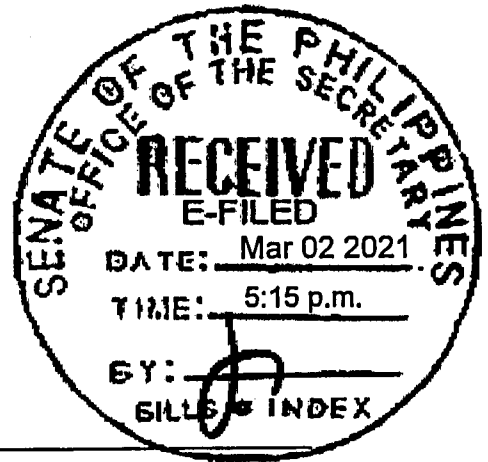
This bill seeks to create an additional RTC branch in the Municipality of Cabagan, Province of Isabela.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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AN ACT

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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in
Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. One (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial Court is hereby
created in the Second Judicial Region, to be stationed in the Municipal of Cabagan,
Province of Isabela.

The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch number for the newly-
created branch of the Regional Trial Court.

SEC. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the
Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's
program the operationalization of the one (1) additional branch of the Regional Trial
Court in the Province of Isabela. The funds necessary for the operation of the court
herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization
of the court and appointment of its personnel.

SEC. 3. Sections 14 (j) and 29 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known
as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, and all other laws, rules
and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed,
or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,